Pre-Visit Activities:

Your Classroom As A Community

Objective: Students will describe the roles of members of their school community. They will

evaluate how their system works and will recognize their own importance to their

community.

Procedure: Communities, or as scientists say "ecosystems" are functioning everywhere

around us - including in your classroom. Discuss the concept of community with your classroom, what does it mean? Describe the human system around you, in your school or your town. Have the students describe the people in the school

community and what their roles are. Make a list, which could include:



Student
Teacher
Principal
Janitor(s)
Cook(s)
Superintendent
Parents
School Board



Are these roles important? What would happen if...

- -the teacher was absent?
- -the students were all sick?
- -janitors did not clean anymore?
- -the school board decided you did not need a principal?

Ask the students to think about their own role in the system. Are they important? What special things can they think of that they contribute? Would their classroom be the same without them?

Have the students draw a picture of their role in their classroom and tell how they are important to the classroom. Have the students exchange names and discuss the role of another student.